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In 2011/12 Money for Madagascar's income was 9% down on the previous year, reflecting the continuing effect of the recession which has affected all charitable giving in the UK. Despite this we spent over £307,000, which was used to support vital projects in Madagascar with only a small amount being spent on overheads.

The largest grant of £171,000 was to the Akany Avoko Children's Home and this sum was significantly higher than in recent years. As well as contributing to the annual running costs, it included money for some major repairs and a number of one off capital projects e.g. construction of a dormitory block for the boys and a shower block for the girls to improve the physical facilities at Akany Avoko. Many of our donors have supported the Home for many years and the Trustees wanted to speed up the rate at which this money is used to benefit the children.

As a result of this increase in spending the balance of reserves has reduced but is still equivalent to over one year's spending. We have tried to balance our wish to put donated funds to use quickly with the need to hold a reasonable level of reserves to provide a cushion against financial risks in the future.

The Trustees would like to thank you all for your continuing and generous support which helps to make a huge difference to many desperately poor and disadvantaged people in Madagascar.

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Twenty-sixth Annual Report

concerning the financial year 26th Sept. 2011—25th Sept. 2012



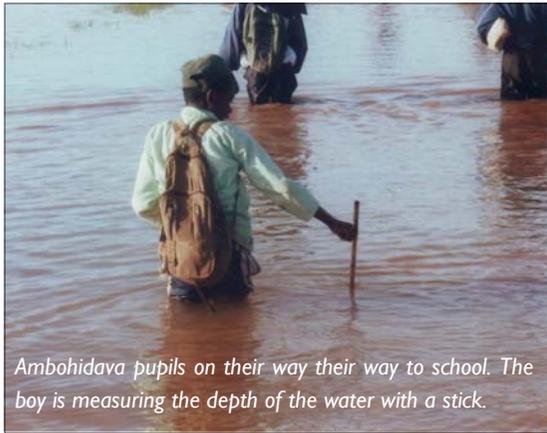
Happy children with a new school water supply, funded by MfM.

FOREWORD

In the year following our jubilee celebrations MfM enjoyed new recognition and acclaim. A higher profile in Madagascar has prompted new partnerships with local NGOs as well as a national award for the MfM Coordinator. The generosity of new and established donors has enabled us to strengthen existing programmes as well as to develop new projects with juvenile prisoners, vulnerable boys, and under-resourced rural schools. We look forward to growing together.

HOPE OUT OF TRAGEDY

Ambohidava is one of five villages situated on one side of a natural flood plain in a remote area of the central highlands. There is a primary school in the village but the only secondary school is in a town six miles away on the other side of the valley. The children lose three months of schooling every year due to the floods in



Ambohidava pupils on their way their way to school. The boy is measuring the depth of the water with a stick.

the rainy season. Three children drowned last year trying to get to school. MfM funded the building of three classrooms of a new secondary school in Ambohidava itself and we hope to raise funds for a further two classrooms to complete the school in the near future.



The road to Ambohidava is almost impassable even months after the rains have finished and transporting the materials for building a school posed quite a challenge !

AKANY AVOKO CHILDREN'S HOME

MfM continues to have close contacts with Akany Avoko and we are happy to transfer funds that have been raised independently for agreed projects. A separate report is included in this mailing.



Hand-tools for weeding the ricefields.

Cyclone Giovanna struck Madagascar in February, caused much damage to buildings and roads, and devastated the rice crop for many communities right across the country. If you are a poor subsistence farmer and your main rice crop is destroyed, without outside help you and your family face months of hunger. With funding from **MfM** our partner organisation SAF/FJKM was able to distribute seeds and tools directly to 112 households in two badly affected areas and to supply a further 2,500kg of seed to another four local authorities. Training was also given in the technique of intensive rice cultivation which will enable the farmers to increase their yields in the future.

HONOUR FOR MfM

We are delighted to report that our Co-ordinator, Theresa, was recently made a Chevalier de L'Ordre National Malagasy (Knight of the National Order of Madagascar) for her work on behalf of Money for Madagascar over the past 27 years.

The award was presented in Ambohipo in the Fandriana area of the Central Highlands where **MfM** has funded many schools, school vegetable gardens, water and sanitation projects, and a lot of environmental education.



MAINTIRANO



Last year we reported on a project in the far west to protect a silting-up swamp that provided water for a large area of ricefields. Many thousands of raphia trees have now been planted, irrigation works undertaken and the area of ricefields has been greatly increased—a successful project in every way and congratulations to our partners who did the work.

CYCLONE RELIEF

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With funding from **MfM** our partner

CLEAN WATER MEANS CLEAN CLOTHES!



If you live in Alasora, only 8 miles from the capital, the chances are that you will have no electricity and no running water. In some of the villages water is available from a kiosk but only for a few hours a day and you have to pay for it.

MfM has funded the construction of 15 wells and 5 public laundry facilities

in and around Alasora in the past three years. There are local committees responsible for the cleanliness and upkeep of each of these facilities and the local people are delighted and very grateful. As one woman said to our visiting trustee, *“It’s marvellous. Before I used to wash in the swamp. Now it’s marvellous.”*



Queuing for water at a public well.

AKANY HARIMAMY



One would never guess from this boy’s happy face that he has a very sad history and was sent to Akany Harimamy by the juvenile court for his own safety.

Akany Harimamy is a new children’s home for boys and **MfM** has given them a modest grant to help with their start-up costs.

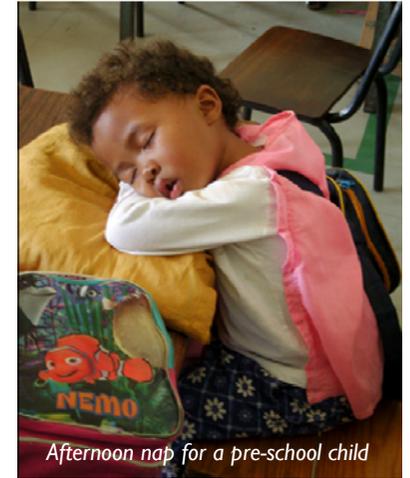
It is still very new and the boy in the picture is one of the first six residents. Three of those boys have had some schooling so they now go to the local primary school. The other three have never been to school

and our visiting trustee witnessed some inspired literacy teaching in the home itself. They have a productive vegetable garden and the boys are encouraged to take part in all the household tasks, which includes cooking delicious cakes for passing visitors. They certainly seem to thrive on it.

THE CHILDREN THAT SCHOOLS DON’T WANT

For many years **MfM** has supported a feeding scheme for street children run by Pastor Helivao and recently we have also supported some of her other work such as that with teenaged girls living on the streets who are in great danger from violence and prostitution.

She also runs pre-school classes for the children of market traders who are rejected by local primary schools. These children have lived most of their young lives on the streets and have picked up bad habits so the schools find excuses not to accept them. The parents were desperate and they asked Pastor Helivao to help. In her pre-school the children are taught good manners, how to keep themselves clean, and the beginnings of literacy. After two years in Helivao’s pre-school they find places easily in state primary schools.



Afternoon nap for a pre-school child



BETAMPONA

Local people living in the forest have always supplemented their limited, largely vegetarian, diet with “bushmeat” (which means lemurs in Madagascar) but in the past it was on a modest scale and was not a cause for great concern.

Sadly, in the last few years deepening poverty has led to an increase in the hunting of wildlife both for food and to sell. Our team in Betampona in the eastern rainforest has tackled this problem by encouraging families to rear poultry and pigs so that there is no need for them to hunt for bushmeat. The team gives advice on housing, feeding and vaccination against disease. The owners of the chickens in the picture had about 50 healthy hens and were growing maize and other grains for their food nearby. They were also keeping them safe from robbers as it meant crossing the river by bamboo raft and then about an hour’s steep climb up the forested hillside to reach them !

THE POWER OF THE SUN

Mobile phones have revolutionised life for many people in Madagascar, but charging them is a major problem if you live out in the country where there is no electricity. **MfM** has funded two pilot projects on the east coast with solar-powered phone chargers .

In the pictured project a group of villagers bought the the necessary equipment using micro-credit supplied by our



partner organisation SAF/FATOAM. The cost included some management training. After some initial problems the scheme is now working well and part of the loan has already been repaid.

The villagers can charge four batteries at a time and the price per charge is the same as it would be in town at a shop or kiosk with an electricity supply.

Charnette, the leader of SAF/FATOAM hopes to expand the scheme once the pilot projects are completed. She thinks there may even be scope for setting projects up in the large port town of Toamasina where there are constant electricity cuts. **MfM** will be there to support her as soon as she is ready.

LA SOURCE



The missing pane of glass was broken by a child with cerebral palsy. Safety glass is urgently needed.

La Source is an inspiring school for young people with learning disabilities for whom there is no government provision at present in Madagascar. The political crisis and the alarming descent into poverty has had a severe impact and the majority of parents are finding it very difficult to pay the modest fees. Several families have withdrawn their children, but the school still has to pay staff salaries, electricity bills etc. however many there are on roll. **MfM** is urgently looking for sponsors to enable these children to have an education and the school to continue its good work. Any regular amount, however small, will help. Please contact the Co-ordinator.

A HAPPY ENDING IN SIGHT?

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd do much good work in a very poor part of the capital and **MfM** has supported their pre-school classes for street children for many years. In a recent report Sister Annamma wrote, "I am also looking for a place of safety for 6 children who beg on the street. The oldest is with a baby. One



The children's "home" beside the rubbish bins

day I spoke with her and discovered a very sad story. Their father is dead since two years. The ages of the children are from 4-13. The mother was with another man who was very violent and this man made pregnant the girl of 13 years. After a violent quarrel the mother left the house leaving her children behind. Subsequently the man in question chased the children from the house. The girl of 13, not knowing the whereabouts of her mother, took charge of her brothers and sisters. They beg during the day and sleep in the market at night. We are in the process of contacting an organization who can take care of the children and the girl with her baby. Life is very sad for this thirteen year old girl and we hope we will succeed in our attempt to find a solution."

Sadly, this is an all-too-common story and **MfM** will continue to do everything possible to support the sisters in their work with the poorest of the poor.

GREEN SCHOOLS



In 2011 we obtained funding for a large schools programme which allowed us to build five new classrooms per year, each equipped with a stock of books on the environment, tools for setting up a school garden and an element of teacher training in environmental education. Two inspirational teacher training courses have been held so far. The man in the picture is explaining how to grow Artemisia which can provide very useful anti-malarial medicine at minimal cost.

Teachers from other schools are clamouring to come on future courses and we are looking for ways to extend this programme.